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(From Left) Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson and James A Robinson

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## TRIO WINS ECONOMICS NOBEL FOR WORK ON WEALTH INEQUALITY

**Economists Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson and James Robinson win Nobel for research into differences in prosperity between nations**

### RESEARCH ON WHY NATIONS FAIL OR SUCCEED

By examining the various political and economic systems introduced by European colonisers, the three researchers explained why some countries are rich and others poor, the Nobel committee said. Their research also helped explain why countries with poor rule of law and exploitative institutions often become trapped in a situation of "low economic growth"

### HIGHLIGHTING ROLE OF SOCIETAL INSTITUTIONS

- "The three economists have demonstrated the importance of societal institutions for achieving prosperity," Jakob Svensson, Chair of the Committee for the Prize in Economic Sciences, said | **P12**
- Acemoglu and Robinson wrote the best-selling book *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty* published in 2012

1968

**WHEN THE SWEDISH CENTRAL BANK ESTABLISHED NOBEL ECONOMICS PRIZE**

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

# India expels six top Canadian diplomats, withdraws envoy

Indian high commissioner 'person of interest' in Nijjar case: Canada

Canada's Deputy High Commissioner Stewart Wheeler leaves the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Monday. He is among the six expelled Canadian diplomats | PTI

**CURIOUS TIMING OF THE COMMUNIQUE**

"It is no coincidence that it takes place as Prime Minister Trudeau is to depose before a commission on foreign interference," the foreign office said in its statement

**YESHI SELI** @ New Delhi

RELATIONS between India and Canada reached a nadir on Monday as the foreign office announced the expulsion of six Canadian diplomats and the withdrawal of its high commissioner and other diplomats after Ottawa claimed they were 'persons of interest' in the murder of Khalistani radical Hardeep Singh Nijjar in British Columbia last year. Though Nijjar, a Canadian national, was not named, the insinuation was crystal clear.

The six expelled diplomats are acting High Commissioner Stewart Ross Wheeler, Deputy High Commissioner Patrick Hebert and first secretaries Marie Catherine Joly, Ian Ross David Trites, Adam James Chuipka, and Paula Orjuela. All six were given a Saturday deadline to fly out of India.

The announcement came after the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) summoned Wheeler and gave him a piece of its mind. "It was underlined that in an atmosphere of extremism and violence, the Trudeau Government's actions endangered their safety. We have no faith in the current Canadian Government's commitment to ensure their security," the MEA said.

Hardeep Singh Nijjar and Justin Trudeau

> Aspersions cast on him (High Commissioner Verma) are ludicrous and deserve to be treated with contempt -MEA

The MEA's Secretary East summoned Wheeler and said India reserves the right to take further steps in response to the Trudeau government's support for extremism, violence and separatism against the country. He was informed that the baseless targeting of the Indian high commissioner and other diplomats and officials in Canada was unacceptable.

Earlier in the day, India trashed a communiqué which suggested that High Commissioner Sanjay Kumar Verma and other diplomats were 'persons of interest' in the matter.

Ever since Trudeau first alleged an Indian role in Nijjar's murder, his government has not shared a shred of evidence despite repeated requests, the foreign office asserted. "This leaves little doubt that on the pretext of an investigation, there is a deliberate strategy of smearing India for political gains," the MEA charged.

But Wheeler later claimed his country had provided 'credible, irrefutable evidence'.

"Prime Minister Trudeau's naked interference in Indian internal politics in December 2020 showed how far he was willing to go in this regard. That his Government was dependent on a political party, whose leader openly espouses a separatist ideology vis-a-vis India, only aggravated matters," the statement added.

**PITCH PERFECT**

Team India skipper Rohit Sharma and head coach Gautam Gambhir at a practice session at M Chinnaswamy Stadium, ahead of India's first Test against New Zealand, in Bengaluru on Monday | VINODKUMAR | P13

## Unscientific projects causing landslides in C'magaluru, says GSI

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**
@ Chikkamagaluru

THE Geological Survey of India (GSI) has placed Mullayyanagiri and Chandradrona hill ranges and the Charmady Ghat in the list of danger zones.

It conducted a survey recently to know the reasons for landslides in the hilly regions of Chikkamagaluru district. A report was submitted to the district administration, asking it to take certain precautionary measures.

After the tragedy in Kerala's Wayanad region, the state government asked the district administration to prepare a list of places facing natural calamities such as landslides and floods. Accordingly, the district administration identified 77 places as disaster-prone and submitted a report to the government.

In August, the GSI team visited Mullayyanagiri, Datta Peeta and Chandradrona hill ranges and other places in the district and studied the reasons for landslides and floods there.

In its report, the team attributed the reasons for landslides to "mindless and unscientific" development works in the eco-sensitive region.

The report suggested that even movement of heavy vehicles should be stopped in the Mullyyanagiri and Chandradrona ranges.

**RAIN FOR NEXT FOUR DAYS: IMD**

The IMD has forecast rainfall over most parts of Karnataka for the next four days, due to a trough over central Arabian Sea to Comorin area across south Kerala | P5

Road and other infrastructure projects causing harm to Chikkamagaluru district | EXPRESS

**FOOD PRICEY**

## Retail inflation at nine-month high of 5.49%

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**
@ New Delhi

RETAIL inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), reached a nine-month high of 5.49% in September on account of rising food prices, data released by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation showed on Monday. In August, CPI inflation was 3.65%, slightly up from 3.6% in the previous month. The highest inflation rate prior to this was recorded in December 2023, at 5.69%.

According to the government, high base effect and weather conditions might have led to increase in inflation in September. The Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI), which measures food inflation, was reported at 9.24% for September. The inflation rates for rural and urban areas were 9.08% and 9.58%, respectively.

Meanwhile, the year-on-year housing inflation rate for September was 2.78%, up from 2.66% in August. The All India Electricity index for September was recorded at 162.5, with an inflation rate of 5.45%. Additionally, significant declines in inflation were noted for pulses and products, spices, meat and fish, as well as the sugar and confectionery subgroups during September.

Manoranjan Sharma, chief economist, Infomerics Ratings, said: "The inflationary surge is attributable to the base effect, 9.24% food inflation in September up from 5.66% in August, and the spike in inflation rate for vegetables from 10.71% in July to 35.99% in August. In hindsight, it is clear that RBI was right in holding the rates steady in its October 9, 2024, Policy. Constant caution, vigil, and monitoring are needed."

In addition, India's wholesale price index-based inflation rose slightly to 1.84% in September, up from 1.31% in August, due to a sharp uptick in food prices. Food inflation surged to 11.53% for the month compared to just 3.11% in August, according to the commerce ministry's data.

Other major sub-indices, such as manufactured products, showed a drop in prices.

**HUBBALLI RIOT**

## Withdrawal of cases: BJP seeks Guv's intervention

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**
@ Bengaluru

STATE BJP leaders on Monday sought Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot's intervention to revoke the cabinet decision to withdraw cases against the accused in the Hubballi rioting case in 2022. They staged a protest in the city and submitted a memorandum to the governor.

In the memorandum, the BJP leaders pointed out that the cabinet had decided to withdraw 60 cases, including against the accused in Hubballi violence, where a violent mob laid siege to the Old Hubballi police station, damaged police vehicles and temples near the station. The mob also threw stones injuring several police personnel. Hubballi-Dharwad police had arrested 150 people and filed cases against some of them under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act.

"By withdrawing the cases against those miscreants, the government has disregarded the serious nature of violence, which involved attacks on police personnel and public property," it stated. P4

## First meet of Kuki, Meitei, Naga MLAs since Manipur erupted

**PRASANTA MAZUMDAR & MUKESH RANJAN**
@ Guwahati/New Delhi

LEGISLATORS from Manipur's Meitei, Kuki and Naga communities will sit down on Tuesday in Delhi for their first joint meeting to be held by the Centre since the eruption of ethnic violence in the state last year.

A Meitei legislator said he welcomed the initiative. "We were asked to sit together as part of a peace initiative," he said. "There will be legislators from Meitei, Kuki and Naga communities, and the state's different regions will be represented."

Some Meitei and Naga ministers and MLAs flew to Delhi from Imphal on Monday.

Letpao Haokip, a Kuki-Zo minister, said all 10 Kuki-Zo legislators of Manipur have been invited. "Some will definitely attend, but we are not sure how many," he added. Meanwhile, an MLA camping in Delhi said 18 will attend – eight Meitei MLAs and five each from Kuki and Naga communities.

An official said the talks are part of the Centre's efforts to facilitate a dialogue between the warring communities. At least, 250 people have been killed and over 60,000 displaced since ethnic violence erupted in Manipur in May last year.

**EXPRESS READ**

### Wayanad: Kerala passes resolution against Centre

T'puram: The Kerala Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution on Monday against the Centre's delay in extending aid to Wayanad. The substantive motion was presented by Parliamentary Affairs Minister MB Rajesh at the outset of an adjournment discussion in the House on the matter | P5

### Siddique killing: Cops in MP searching for 3rd shooter

Mumbai: Police scoured places of worship in Madhya Pradesh's Ujjain and Khandwa in their hunt for the third shooter wanted for NCP leader Baba Siddique's killing. A Khandwa police officer said the shooters arrested by Mumbai police have said they had visited places of worship | P10

# Court rejects bail pleas of Darshan, Pavithra

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**
@ Bengaluru

A city court on Monday dismissed the bail pleas of jailed actor **Darshan Thoogudeepa**, his close friend Pavithra Gowda and two others in the Renukaswamy murder case. The court, however, granted bail to two other accused in the case.

Jaishankar, Judge of the 56th City Civil and Sessions Court, who reserved his order last week, dismissed the bail petitions of Darshan, Pavithra Gowda, actor's manager Nagaraju (A-11) and his car driver Lakshman (A-12). The court granted bail to Deepak Kumar M (A-13) and Ravishankar (A-8).

An advocate representing Ravishankar, a car driver from Chitradurga, told reporters that he got bail as the other accused from Chitradurga, Anu Kumar, Raghavendra and Jagadish, had first contacted Suresh, a car driver, to hire his vehicle to bring Renukaswamy to Bengaluru. As Suresh was in Chikkamagaluru, he asked them to contact Ravishankar. Ravishankar got involved in the case as his car was hired. Ravishankar had no intention to harm anyone and he was not part of the murder conspiracy. Even eyewitness statements supported Ravishankar's innocence, the advocate said.

Senior counsels CV Nagesh and Tommy Sebastian had appeared on behalf of Darshan and Pavithra Gowda, respectively. Special public prosecutor B Prasanna Kumar had argued that there is technical evidence such as mobile tower location of the accused, including Darshan and Pavithra Gowda, tracked to the shed at Pattanagere, where the crime was committed.

### Court grants bail to former min Nagendra

A special court on Monday granted bail to former minister B Nagendra, who was arrested by the ED in connection with the multi-crore scam in Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation. Santhosh Ganjanan Bhat, judge of the Special Court to try cases against sitting and former MPs/MLAs, granted bail to the Ballari MLA | P3

## Arkavathy: Complaint to Guv against CM on denotification

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**
@ Bengaluru

FOUR people, who have been allotted sites in Arkavathy Layout in Bengaluru, on Monday complained to Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot accusing Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, the then Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) Commissioner Sham Bhatt and land acquisition officer Boraiah of involving in the alleged illegalities in denotification of land acquired for formation of the layout.

In their letter to the governor, MS Shivalingappa, M Chandrasekaran, K Ramachandraiah and Dr Venkatakrishnappa, site owners, stated that several land parcels were notified for formation of the layout in 2004-05. Some land owners challenged the acquisition of their land in the high court.

The court upheld the land acquisition, but directed the BDA to consider applications of the land owners for deletion of their land acquired by following certain parameters. P3

**IMPACT OF CONFLICTS**

## *Exports from K'taka take a severe beating*

**S LALITHA** @ Bengaluru

THE conflict in West Asia and the coming US elections have affected exports from Karnataka. Companies manufacturing automobile components, engineering and aerospace equipment, and iron castings have taken a hit. The Russia-Ukraine war, followed by the Israel-Palestine and Israel-Iran conflict have impacted the state's exports, according to industrialists here. However, export of defence items to Israel has grown manifold.

"Export of automobile components from Bengaluru, Hubballi and Belagavi to Sweden, Germany and the Czech Republic has been impacted significantly due to the crisis in West Asia," CR Janardhana, former president of the Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry, told *TNIE*.

He said an industrialist, whose components were most sought after by the aerospace industry globally, was impacted so badly that he has shifted his business to the defence sector."

MJ Prasad of Accutech Enterprises in Peenya, said, "We supply aerospace hydraulic tools and mechanical components to transportation systems in the US, Europe and Switzerland. The transportation costs through the sea have gone up due to the crisis in West Asia. The volume of orders placed has dipped by 30% to 40%."

"Our foreign exchange reserves last week went down by $ 3.5 billion. This is an indication of the plummeting export business. From $701 billion per week, it dipped, instead of the usual trend of growth witnessed week on week," said Dr Jacob Crasta, national executive committee member of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). P5

### PRESIDENT IN ALGERIA

President Droupadi Murmu met her Algerian counterpart Abdelmadjid Tebboune in Algiers on Monday to review bilateral relations, and agreed to strengthen ties across sectors.